

Claim 1. (withdrawn) A slingbag comprising:

a flexible mat,

a plurality of lifting loops, and

a pallet;

wherein said lifting loops are durably attached to said flexible mat and are positioned about said flexible mat, so that when all of said lifting loops are raised for attachment to a single point pick-up, said flexible mat forms a sling with containing sides and a bottom.

Claim 2. (withdrawn) A slingbag as in claim 1 wherein said flexible mat is of polypropylene.

Claim 3. (withdrawn) A slingbag as in claim 1 wherein said flexible mat is T-shaped, and wherein there are eight lifting loops; wherein one of said lifting loops is durably attached to said T-shaped mat at each exterior corner.

Claim 4. (withdrawn) A slingbag as in claim 3 wherein said flexible mat is of polypropylene.

Claim 5. (withdrawn) A slingbag comprising a flexible mat and a plurality of lifting loops;

wherein said flexible mat is T-shaped, and

wherein said plurality of lifting loops are durably attached to said flexible mat at the exterior corners of said T-shaped flexible mat.

Claim 6. (withdrawn) A slingbag as in claim 5 wherein said plurality of lifting loops are positioned about said flexible mat so that, when all of said lifting loops are raised for attachment to a single point pick-up, said flexible mat forms a sling with four sides and a bottom.

Claim 7. (withdrawn) A slingbag as in claim 5 further comprising a pallet.

Claim 8. (withdrawn) A slingbag as in claim 5 wherein said T-shaped mat further comprises four side flaps extending out from a center panel.

Claim 9. (withdrawn) A slingbag as in claim 8 wherein there are four of said lifting loops and wherein each of said lifting loops durably connects one exterior corner of a side flap of said T-shaped mat to the most proximate exterior corner on another side flap.

Claim 10. (withdrawn) A slingbag as in claim 8 wherein said T-shaped flexible mat further comprises two rectangular mats, overlapped perpendicularly in a cross pattern and durably joined together, and wherein there are eight of said lifting loops.

Claim 11. (withdrawn) A slingbag as in claim 10, wherein the means to join said rectangular mats together to form said T-shaped flexible mat is sewing.

Claim 12. (withdrawn) A slingbag as in claim 10, wherein said slingbag further comprises a plurality of ties, wherein two or more of said ties are durably attached to each side flap of said T-shaped flexible mat.

Claim 13. (withdrawn) A slingbag as in claim 12 wherein said flexible mat is of polypropylene.

Claim 14. (withdrawn) A slingbag as in claim 12 wherein said center panel of said T-shaped mat is sized to fit on a standard pallet.

Claims 15 - 21 (canceled)

Claim 22. (currently amended) A method for efficiently loading and unloading filled bags for transport using pallets, a forklift, a single point pick-up, and slingbags, wherein each of said slingbags comprises a center panel sized to fit atop said pallet, a plurality of side flaps, a plurality of ties attached to each side flap, and a plurality of lifting loops; comprising the steps of:

placing the center panel of a slingbag on a pallet;
stacking filled bags onto said pallet;
folding up the side flaps of said slingbag;
securely fastening the ties attached to each side flap to said ties of the adjacent
said side flaps of said slingbag so that said slingbag contains the bags;
securely fastening the plurality of lifting loops together atop the loaded slingbag;
loading the loaded pallet onto a transport using a forklift;
deploying said loaded slingbag from said pallet using a single point pick-up to

grasp said lifting loops of said sling bag; and

A method as in claim 19 further comprising the step of lowering said slingbag for underwater deployment, wherein divers may unload the bags from said slingbag and position as needed.

Claims 23 - 26 (canceled)